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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/529,045	03/24/2005	Celestin Sedogbo	4590-387	6233

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EXAMINER

SEYE, ABDOU K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2194

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/29/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/529,045

Applicant(s)

SEDOGBO ET AL.

Examiner

Abdou Karim Seye

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 March 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/14/2005.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-415)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____



WILLIAM THOMSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is the initial office action based on the application filed on March 24, 2005. Claims 1-9 are currently pending and have been considered below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter that the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-9 and 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Appropriate clarification is required on the following claims:

Claim 1 recites the limitations "the application" " the interaction media", "the interaction context" "the user" , "the mode", "the exchange information", "the services", "the aid of this representation", "the dialog". There is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations in this claim.

Claim 2 recites the limitations "the communications" , "the functions", "the application". There is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations in this claim.

Claim 3 recites the limitations "the application" " the interaction services", "the domain of application" "the user" , "the task", "the modes". There is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations in this claim.

Claim 4 recites the limitations "the dialog" , "the users". There is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations in this claim.

Claim 5 recites the limitations "the application" " the interaction media", "the interaction context" "the user". There is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations in this claim.

Claim 6 recites the limitations "the actions", "the users", "the interface", " the usage interfaces". There is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations in this claim.

Claim 7 recites the limitations "the application" " the interaction services", "the following knowledge bases" "the user" , "the modes". There is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations in this claim.

Claims 8 and 9 recite the limitations "the dialog", "the user". There is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations in these claims.

Claims 1-9: Attempt to claim a process without setting forth any steps involved in the process generally raises an issue of indefiniteness under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. ;<Ex parte Lyell, 17 USPQ2d 1548 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1990) *>

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 based on the theory that the claims are directed to neither a "method with steps or process" nor a "machine," but rather embraces or overlaps two different statutory classes of invention set forth in 35 U.S.C. 101 which is drafted so as to set forth the statutory classes of invention in the alternative only. Lyell, Ex parte, 17 USPQ2d 1548 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1990).

Appropriate change is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that forms the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section

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122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Kawai et al. (US 6470340)**.

Claims 1 and 5: Hayes-Roth discloses a system and method making it possible to render user-system interaction independent of the application and of the interaction media, this system having at least one computing layer supporting at least one representation of a terminal and at least one representation of an application, and having at least one user interface itself supporting a piece of software, comprising the steps of:

- a. A container creating in which is stored at least one of the following representations of the interaction context: representation of the terminals that can be used by the users of the system, representations of the modes of action, representation of the modes of perception of the exchanges of information by the users, representation of activity of the users, representation of context, representation of the services expected (abstract; fig. 2/200; paragraph 157, 158, 162, 163, 164, and
- b. In that a person-system interaction container (PSIC) provides for the interaction by using the representations to construct, adapt and manipulate knowledge bases

(abstract; paragraph, 42, 44 and 45) constituting a structured representation of the context of use of the system, and that with the aid of this representation it establishes the dialog (abstract; paragraph 42, 43) between the users and the services of the application.

Claim 2: Hayes-Roth further discloses that all the communications between the user interface and the functions of the application are managed by the container(fig. 2/213,207,208 and 210 paragraphh 157-165).

Claim 3: Hayes-Roth further discloses that the interaction services implemented by the container use one at least of the following knowledge bases: the domain of application, the application, the user or users, the task, the modes of perception and of action offered by the terminal (fig. 2, paragraph 157-165).

Claim 4: Hayes-Roth further discloses that the PSIC updates and uses a log of the dialog between the user and the system (paragraph 48).

Claim 7: Hayes-Roth further discloses a step as in claim 2 above and further discloses that, the interaction services implemented by the container use one at least of the following knowledge bases: the domain of application, the application, the user or users, the task, the modes of perception and of action offered by the terminal (fig. 2; paragraph 44).

Claim 8: Hayes-Roth further discloses a method step as in claim 2 and further discloses that, the PSIC updates and uses a log of the dialog between the user and the system; update and use interactive information logged in a database (paragraph 48, 44, 181, 182).

Claim 9: Hayes-Roth further discloses a method step as in claim 3 and further discloses that the PSIC updates and uses a log of the dialog between the user and the system update and use interactive information logged in a database (paragraph 48, 44, 181, 182).

Claim 6: Hayes-Roth further discloses a method step as in claims 1 and 5 and further discloses that discloses that the container device comprises a subset for analyzing events (paragraph 181) represented by the actions of the users on the interfaces, a subset for taking account of the actions of the users and for managing interaction (database management component; fig. 2/210; paragraph 181), a subset for communicating with the applications (fig. 2; paragraph 181) server, a subset of filters, an adapter and mode selector (adapt a service for a client; paragraph 46 and 49) subset and a subset of converters (personalize the service; paragraph 46 and 49) for the usage interfaces.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure.

Chai et al. (US6829603) discloses a system, method and program product for interactive natural dialog.

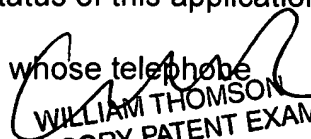
Oblinger (20020107852) discloses a customer self service subsystem for context cluster discovery and validation.

Elad et al. (US 7092928) discloses an intelligent portal engine.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Exr. Abdou Seye whose telephone number is (571) 270-1062. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, contact the examiner's supervisor, William Thomson at (571) 272-3718. The fax phone number for formal or official faxes to Technology Center 3600 is (571) 273-8300. Draft or informal faxes, which will not be entered in the application, may be submitted directly to the examiner at (571) 273-6722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-3600.


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AKS
January 16, 2007

William Thomson
Supervisory Patent Examiner